



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Ashby et al  
SERIAL NO.: 09/843,496  
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Date: July 21, 2004

Name:

Ruth Rodriquez

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

Dear Sir:

This paper is responsive to the Office Action mailed **April 30, 2004**. Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 4 of this paper.